

# Welcome to Mrs. Miller's Class



2025-2026

## English II CP Course Information

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Room Number C-109

### Course Description:

Welcome! I am Ruchi Miller--your fearless leader! I am delighted to teach you this year! English 2 is for students who have successfully completed the requirements of English 1. The course includes major themes found in literature, such as tolerance and absolute power, and gives students the opportunity to read critically, engage in discussions, and develop their writing and research skills. Students will read informational texts, perform close readings of literary texts, make presentations, study poetry, and write for a variety of purposes, including on-demand writing as well as a formal research paper. Not only will students work cooperatively to construct meanings and responses to texts, students will demonstrate their knowledge in formal and informal products. After completing this course, students will be prepared to successfully complete the state-mandated End-of-Course exam, which will count as 20% of the student's final grade.

### English Objectives:

#### *Students will:*

- **Read and comprehend** a variety of *literary* and *informational* texts in print and non-print formats
- **Use** word analysis and vocabulary strategies to read fluently
- **Create** written work that has a clear focus, sufficient detail, coherent organization, effective use of voice, and correct use of the conventions of written Standard American English
- **Write** for a variety of purposes and audiences
- **Access and use** information from a variety of sources
- **Participate** in critical discussions in class

### Materials required EVERYDAY

- 3-ring binder with tabs labeled (Vocabulary, Grammar, Literature, Graded)
- Composition notebook
- Blue or black pens, #2 pencils
- Highlighter

### Classroom Expectations:

- Be Prompt
- Be Prepared
- Be Positive
- Be Productive
- Be Polite

### Consequences:

- Verbal Warning
- Lunch Detention
- Parent Contact/ Afterschool Detention
- Parent Contact/ Referral      \*\*Major infractions will result directly in a referral\*\*

### Attendance:

- Students are **EXPECTED** to attend class each day
- If a student is absent for any reason, it is **their responsibility** to obtain and complete any makeup work; check one of the following for makeup work: Google Classroom, ask a classmate, and/or check with the teacher
- Missed tests or assessments are to be completed on the student's own time by appointment before or after school. Arrangements must be made within 5 days of returning to school.

### Grading:

- **Mrs. Miller follows the GCSD Grading Policy**  
The following categories will comprise this percentage of the student's average:
- Minor Assignments = 40% + Major Assignments = 60% = 100%
- EOC/ Final Exam – 20% of the final average
- Final Class Grade - 40% 1st Quarter / 40% 2nd Quarter / 20% EOC Exam

### Late Grades

- Any assignment which is not turned in on time may be turned in within 5 days.
- Major assignments will be given a 10 point per day late penalty. Ten points will be deducted from the graded score for each day the assignment is late.
- Minor assignments turned in late will be given half credit if turned in within five days of the due date.
- If a student misses work due to an absence, it is the student's responsibility to coordinate time with the teacher within 5 days of return to make up the work.
- Students who have 504/IEP/ESOL accommodations specifically allowing for extra time may exceed the 5 day window to maintain compliance with their respective plan.
- If a student is present (online or face-to-face) on the day a test, quiz or project due date is announced and then absent on the day of the test, quiz or project deadline, he/she must be prepared to take the test, quiz or turn in the project on the day he/she returns to school.
- Field trips and participation in other extracurricular events (such as athletics) are considered attendance days. Work missed due to such events can be submitted electronically by midnight on the day that it is due. Items that cannot be submitted electronically should be submitted the following attendance day.

### Testing

- It is the **responsibility of the student** to request and set up a time with the teacher to take a re-test, if the student scored below a 60%. It must be completed **within one week** for a maximum grade of a 60%.
- Retakes are not offered for basic quizzes such as vocab quizzes

### Online Grading System

- EHS implements the PowerSchool program for attendance, grading, etc. Parents and students can access this information through the parent and student portals on the school website, as well as their Backpack.
- Minor grades and tests will be available within 7 days of when it was submitted. Due to the importance of providing unique individual feedback for major projects and papers, Mrs. Miller will have these available once grading is complete.

### **Extra Help/Tutoring/Make-Up/Retesting:**

- Extra help and tutoring is available, ***by appointment*** after school. Appointments must be made in advance.
- Make-up work/re-testing is the responsibility of the student to schedule **on the day you return to school or within one week of receiving a grade below a 60% in the case of re-testing.**

### **General Course of Study - Pacing**

**\*\*\* This is an outline only and is subject to change based on student needs and unexpected alterations to the schedule**

**EHS book list 24-25**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PnP6rlve6aUbilolz9sdMEGFYB0HmQbNINrZYOpf3Ag/edit?usp=sharing>

1. Unit 1 - **Conflict and Connection**- EQ: “What differences can’t be bridged?” (short stories may include but are not limited to “Lather and Nothing Else,” “The Night Face up,” “There Will Come Soft Rains,” “The Pedestrian,” “Where Have You Gone, Charming Billy,” “The Lottery”)
2. Unit 2 - **Power of Perception**- EQ: “How does our point of view shape our view of the world?” - *To Kill a Mockingbird*  
*The unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it. "To Kill A Mockingbird" became both an instant bestseller and a critical success when it was first published in 1960. It went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1961 and was later made into an Academy Award-winning film, also a classic.*
3. Unit 3 - **Reckless Ambition**- EQ: “When is ambition dangerous?” *Macbeth*  
*One night on the heath, the brave and respected general Macbeth encounters three witches who foretell that he will become king of Scotland. At first skeptical, he’s urged on by the ruthless, single-minded ambitions of Lady Macbeth, who suffers none of her husband’s doubt. But seeing the prophecy through to the bloody end leads them both spiraling into paranoia, tyranny, madness, and murder.*

4. Unit 4 - **Hard-Won Liberty** “How can we escape what oppresses us?” Eastern European literature - *Night*

*Born in the town of Sighet, Transylvania, Elie Wiesel was a teenager when he and his family were taken from their home in 1944 to Auschwitz concentration camp, and then to Buchenwald. Night is the terrifying record of Elie Wiesel's memories of the death of his family, the death of his own innocence, and his despair as a deeply observant Jew confronting the absolute evil of man. This new translation by his wife and most frequent translator, Marion Wiesel, corrects important details and presents the most accurate rendering in English of Elie Wiesel's testimony to what happened in the camps and of his unforgettable message that this horror must simply never be allowed to happen again.*

The class will be broken into these 4 major units, which will revolve around a key text or genre (such as the short story). It is important to note that EACH of these units is thematic, meaning that in addition to the keystone text, **each unit will include:**

- Vocabulary lists based on the key texts and literary terms/concepts of the unit. These will be assessed using quizzes throughout the unit.
- Continuing writing instruction based on skills that are taught and refined throughout the year. Writing is not a specific unit, but semester-long.
- Grammar and syntax instruction throughout the unit is paired with small writing assignments to improve writing skills. We will begin with the basics such as sentence structure and advance from there, focusing on refining observed weaknesses.
- Each unit will have a variety of small homework assignments, which are typically answering comprehension questions, completing reading assignments, and short writing assignments to keep writing skills sharp. Be aware that there will be reading to complete at home frequently in order to get through the curriculum.
- Each unit will include 2-3 smaller projects to allow students to dive deeper into targeted concepts pulled from the texts we are reading. These could be either major or minor grades based on their complexity.
- Each unit will have 1-2 major cumulative assessments, usually a traditional test (multiple choice, short answer, etc.) paired with a project or formal essay assessment.

### **Film/Video Media**

One of the most engaging aspects of the study of Literature is how well it can be paired with film/TV media in order to explore differing perspectives of classic pieces, the ways in which directors and authors make the same authorial choices, and learning how to interpret stories both visually and in writing. Here is a list of the major film/TV media we anticipate using in Honors English II this semester:

1. Unit 1: Short Story
  - a. None

2. Unit 2: American Literature
  - a. Film of *To Kill a Mockingbird*
3. Unit 3: Shakespeare's *Macbeth*
  - a. Film *Macbeth*
4. Unit 4: Eastern European literature
  - a. Oprah Winfrey and Elie Wiesel Holocaust Interview
  - b. Film *Life is Beautiful*

### **ONE-TO-ONE (CHROMEBOOK) POLICY**

Effective use of digital devices will progressively lead to more engaging forms of classroom interactions that are personalized, individualized, and differentiated. In order to maximize the efficacy of one-to-one technology, please follow the listed expectations:

1. Bring your Chromebook to class every day.
2. Make sure that your Chromebook is charged before you arrive to school.
3. Never eat or drink while using the Chromebook.
4. When I am delivering content or instructions, screens should be down.
5. Do not touch another student's laptop, unless you have been given permission and/or asked for help.
6. Be on task while using your Chromebook.

### **Plagiarism Policy**

Plagiarism is defined as taking someone else's work or ideas and passing it off as your own. Whether from the internet, books, or your own peers, copying other students' work is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. **This includes the use of AI.** History revision reports must be available on all work to receive credit. In other words, your paper **MUST** be typed on the doc you turn your papers in so I can verify that you have actually written it without copy/pasting into the document.

#### **1st Offense**

The student will receive a zero for the assignment.

Parents will be contacted.

The student will be referred to an administrator with a referral for cheating.

#### **2nd Offense**

The student will receive a zero for the assignment.

Parents will be contacted.

The student will be referred to an administrator with a referral for cheating.

#### **3rd Offense**

The student will receive a zero for the assignment.

Parents will be contacted.

The student will be referred to an administrator with a referral for cheating, which will result in out-of-school suspension.

Students will be allowed to rewrite the plagiarized assignment, with the understanding that the original zero will be averaged with the assigned grade for the rewritten assignment.

### **Cell Phone Policy**

Eastside has a **no cell phone policy** in the classroom. All work must be completed through student Chromebooks. Students will be asked to stow their cell phones in their book bags at all times. If a student has his/her cell phone out, **the teacher will confiscate the phone for the remainder of the class period and lock it in a cabinet for safety.** We will follow the cell phone matrix policy as outlined in the student handbook for discipline. After a warning, students will be written up for refusal to obey. You can help your child by not texting during class, locking their phone down during school hours, and encouraging them to follow all school rules and procedures.

### **Bathroom Policy**

Each student will receive **3 bathroom passes per quarter.** Use them wisely. Any unused passes at the end of the quarter may be turned in for **5 points extra credit each**, for a total of **up to 15 points.** Extra credit will be applied to your **lowest major grade(s).**